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ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 120936Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY HANOI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9622
INFO RUEHHM/AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH 5847
RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS HANOI 000444

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/MLS - LAURA SCHEIBE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [BM](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: Demarche to Vietnam on Aung San Suu Kyi

REF: State 46562

¶1. (SBU) DCM delivered reftel demarche to MFA Americas Director General Nguyen Ba Hung on May 12, emphasizing that, while we are reviewing our policy on how best to promote human rights in Burma, the continued imprisonment of Aung San Suu Kyi casts doubt on the Burmese regime's commitment to meaningful improvement.

¶2. (SBU) Ba Hung responded that Vietnam is "more than willing" to help the U.S. make progress not only in relations with Burma but also in relations with Iran, the DPRK and other regimes with which the U.S. has difficult relations. If there are any specific requests for Vietnamese assistance, Ba Hung said they could be passed along at any time.

¶3. (SBU) DCM responded that we appreciate Vietnam's growing international role and that this is indeed a very specific request: for Vietnam to use its influence with Burma to seek Aung San Suu Kyi's release. Ba Hung said he understood our message very clearly.

MICHALAK